WENDELL POST

VOL. XVIII NO. 2 JUNE / JULY, 1993

50¢ (cheap)

WENDELL COUNTRY STORE CHANGES HANDS

After six years of owning the Wendell Country Store, Cheryl Perkins has decided to "turn the page and move on". Arrangements are nearly complete for Patti and Vic Scutari to buy the store and the house that goes with it.

Patti told me that they plan to make few changes in the store at first. They hope to keep all the present employees, including the manager, Raeann Maynard. Patti and Vic want to take time to get to know the community and what it needs. One thing they plan to start up soon is a copy center in the breezeway between the house and the store. They already have a commercial copier and plan to add fax capabilities.

The Scutaris are finding Wendell a welcome change from their former home of Long Island. They came to visit friends in the area and were very impressed. They were looking for a house large enough for themselves and their four children when they heard about the Country Store and its four bedroom house. Here was not only a comfortable house, but a way to make a living in the area.

Vic and Pat had run a soup kitchen on Long Island for the last ten years where they feed 85 people a day. They were also very busy doing advocacy work with the poor and homeless. In addition, Vic has been a journalist and Pat enjoys quilting.

Cheryl told me that she has kearned a lot running the store and has enjoyed living in Wendell. She has made a lot of friends and hopes they will come visit her in Maine and keep in touch.

Cheryl is looking forward to doing "whatever she wants whenever she wants to do it". She wants to be able to travel more with her husband Keith Blackwell who is a salesman. She plans to finish putting together the old family homestead in Maine. She may also do some catering.

She told me that it is amazing how much her life has changed in these past six years. Before buying the store she lived in Newton and worked a corporate job in Boston for 25 years.

She decided she wanted to be her own boss and buy a restaurant. She intensively searched for a suitable site for five months, but couldn't find a restaurant with the security of having some real estate. Then she saw an ad for the Wendell Country Store in the Sunday Boston Globe with her friend Pat Brown.

Cheryl bought the Country Store from Anne Zak in October, 1987. Pat Brown also moved to the area and managed the store for a year. She said that she and Pat worked long hours, until they built up a strong core of employees and made many changes.

Cheryl put an addition on the store and built the current Post Office. She expanded the restaraunt and cooking facilities. She added many new items to the store, including videos, which have been very popular.

By Linda Hickman

TOWN TO VOTE ON BUDGET

SELECTBOARD SETS DATES FOR OVER-RIDE VOTES AND SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

The Wendell Selectboard has agreed to set June 28 as the date of the over-ride ballot vote to decide questions raised by passage of some budget items at the Annual Town Meeting. Polls will be open from 12 Noon until 8 PM. The Selectboard also agreed to set the next day, June 29, as the date for a Special Town Meeting to conduct business that needs to be completed before the beginning of the next fiscal year, on July 1.

The Board agreed, with the support of the Finance Committee, to list each budget line item of the over-ride separately, a practice recommended by people attending the meeting, and commonly referred to as the "menu" over-ride, (although not necessarily "appetizing" to any.)

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OVERRIDE BALLOT
June 28th
POLLS OPEN 12-8 pm

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
June 29th
7:00 pm

WENDELL POST

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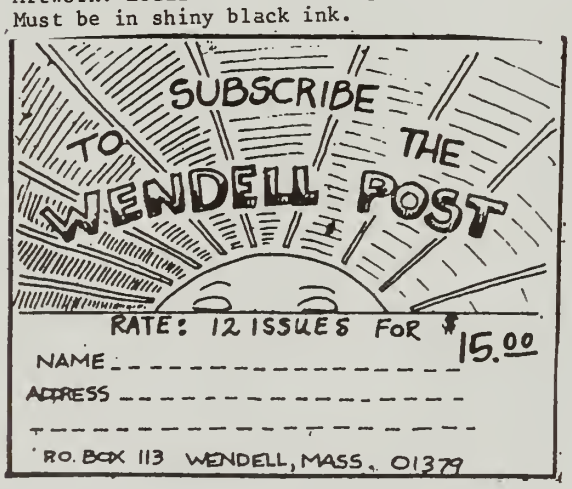
POST ARTICLE INSTRUCTIONS

All articles and letters submitted to the Post for publication need to be signed. If you have a computer, you can help by setting them in our style: 3 3/4" wide, 10 point font size, standard font. Indent three spaces for paragraphs, and do not use an extra space between paragraphs. Please be brief, to share our limited space. If you have questions, call a Post staffer.

Articles: The Post welcomes signed, concise articles about topics of interest to Wendell

Letters: The Post accepts brief letters. Remember, passion doesn't need to be mean.

Artwork: Local artwork lovingly accepted. Must be in shiny black ink.



LETTERS

GOODBYE TO WENDELL

So long Wendell. It's been nice to know ya! It's been a great six years. When I came here I knew nothing about rumming a store or what the community needed in the way of products and services. I've tried lots of things and you all lit me know what you liked and what you didn't.

The experience I've gained and the success of the store is all do to this great community. My heartfelt thanks go to all of you. I'll miss you.

Cheryl Perkins
Wendell Country Store

June 6, 1993

Dear Friends of The Swift River school,

On behalf of the students and staff of the Swift River School, I would like to thank each and every one of you who gave of your self so generously to the school.

Many of you who helped were community members who have no children in the school. Whether it was selling raffle tickets, contributing pennies, driving for field trips, putting chairs away after a performance, weeding our garden, giving a presentation, helping with a play, giving attention to a science fair project, helping in a classroom, or contributing to a bake sale... etc. your willingness to lend a hand has been more valuable than you may think.

You've obviously helped us compensate for our current lack of education funds, but even if we had all the money we needed to hire trained "professionals," your personal expressions of care as family, and concerned friends in the community serve as valuable examples of what a sense of "community" and "participation," and "personal involvement" can mean to the students.

You've also given the staff at The Swift River School inspiration and incentive that is a direct result of the support, the care, and the selfless cooperation that you have offered to them. None of that could be replaced by paid professional help.

The long range effects of your voluntary contributions are priceless because each little bit of help you have offered has, in some way enriched our children's education, and therefore their lives.

I know that you who volunteered have been rewarded with many forms of immediate gratification, but I'd like to remind you that the future of our community is in the hands of these young people you have been helping. Your contribution was also a good investment which will ultimately benefit us all.

Yours Truly,
Molly Kayner
Molly Kayner
(The S.R.S. volunteer coordinator)

WENDELL TOWN HALL WELL

The Wendell Town Hall Well, a very deep subject you might say. Yes, Wendell readers the well has been dug. We have water, at least at the source. Now to continue on to get it to the townhall so we can finally not have to carry water when we want to make coffee at a townhall event. An old home day where we do not run out of water? Can you imagine that? I almost can. And I'm ready for it!

So the next couple of (and hopefully last!) fundraisers are a huge tag sale on Rte. 2 at French King East on June 19, 9-5. One day only. If you have any items you would like to donate, please call Ann Zak at 544-6801 or Anne Diemand at 544-6111. We have access to a bay at the old town garage to store things people are donating. Give us a call if you would like to arrange a time to meet to store your donations there. We also need people to set up, run the tag sale in two sifts, take down, haul away and anyone who has sawhorses and plywood or the likes or tables.

The second fundraiser that is also in the works is a picture done by Jake Graton of the Wendell Art Dept. By the time this paper hits the stands we will have the tickets ready for sale. They will be $1 a ticket. If you are interested in selling tickets or buying them please contact Anne Diemand. The drawing will be held at old home day, July 10.

We need to raise around $1,200. to finish up this project. We intend to have the water to the townhall in time for everyone to enjoy it by old home day. Annie Diemand

TIME ON YOUR HANDS??

Someone (plural or singular) has too much time on their hands! In late May the Wendell Meeting House was defaced with black spray paint.

We feel that if these individuals have this much time on their hands, that they should volunteer to paint the building (white) rather than express themselves in such a negative manner. If you have any indication as to who these individuals are and if they need a project to occupy their time, please call Mez Davis at 544-6252 or Gail Krutka at 544-6362.

Thanks and we hope you can channel your energy more efficiently!

P.S. The Free Box Committee works hard to keep the clothing in an orderly fashion. Please do not decorate the electric lines with shoes, skates and clothing.

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TOWN TO VOTE ON BUDGET...

continued from pg 1

The Annual Meeting passed the following over-ride amounts, each of which will be a separate question on the ballot: Swift River School, $14,070; Mahar Regional School, $15,673; Highway Department, $5000; Mediation services,$500; Stabilization Fund, $20,000; stainless steel sander for Highway, $10,000; toilet for town library, $2500; paint town buildings, $1000; and dog pens for temporary restraint of dogs suspected of being rabid, $800.

In addition, the Annual voted a debt article, to finance the $53,000 necessary to purchase a new cab and chassis for a dump truck for the Highway department. Although this would be a borrowing and would not cost the town any money this year, the proposal needs approval at the ballot box to be excluded from the Proposition 2 1/2 levy limit. Therefore it will be listed as a separate question on the ballot.

The Finance Committee strongly recommends a vote in favor of the debt exclusion for the highway truck. Members feel that the truck is sorely needed, and that since the town is retiring a similar debt this year--for a fire truck--funds will be available to pay for the note in coming years. This means that the town will be able to finance the truck without any net increase in the tax rate.

The Finance committee also voted to support the over-ride for the library toilet, another much needed item that could be accomplished for relatively little money.

In other discussions, the Finance committee agreed that all citizens who came to the Annual meeting this year should be thanked for their participation and cooperation, and that the meeting proceeded in a thoughtful, friendly, and businesslike manner. However, members shared a deep concern over the very low turnout.

The committee is also sad to report the departure of two valued members, Elizabeth Crawford and Don Stone, and sincerely requests that anyone the least bit interested in the work of the Finance committee consider joining. No special skills are required, and interested voters can call Chair Lee Trousdale at 544-7335. or Secretary Don Richardson, at 544-6322.

Regardless of voters' positions and feelings on any of the over-ride issues, they should please come and vote!

—Submitted by Pam Keller

SWIFT RIVER TEACHER NEGOTIATIONS GO TO MEDIATION

Negotiations between the Swift River Education Association (S.R.E.A.), the collective bargaining unit for teachers and other professionals, and the school administration and school committee will go to mediation. The S.R.E.A. has been negotiating their first unionized contract, for the 1992-93 school year. Very little progress has been made toward reaching an agreement in the 11 months since talks began.

Of the 29 items in the proposed contract, only 11 items have been agreed upon in principle. Major areas of disagreement are binding arbitration for grievances, just cause for dismissal or discipline, reduction in force, sick leave, retirement, work day, evaluation procedures, and salary schedule.

All of the above items can easily be placed in the following categories: 1) currently in practice at Swift River School, but the administration and school committee refusing to put it in a written contract; 2) currently in practice at one or more of the 3 other schools in School Union #28; 3) language and practices routinely agreed upon by most school systems in Massachusetts and the United States.

The teachers and professionals at Swift River School unionized as a direct result of the administration and school committee failing to carry out their promises. They reneged on a contract for the 1991-92 school year. Teachers and other professionals have also not had any pay increase for 2 years. They have not had a cost of living increase for 3 years. Salaries were at the bottom in comparison to other area schools, before the broken contract. Morale is reportedly low.

Swift River School serves the towns of New Salem and Wendell. It is also a part of School Union #28, serving the towns of Shutesbury, Leverett, and Erving.

WENDELL CITIZENS SPEAK OUT TO PROTECT THE STATE FOREST

The Department of Environmental Management is considering opening certain designated State Park and Forest lands to the use of Off Road Vehicles (ORVs). The new policy, if adopted, would permit unregistered motorized two wheel, three wheel, and four wheel vehicles on certain designated trails. It would have no effect on current permitted use by snowmobiles and registered-for-the-road vehicles. To present and get response to their draft criteria for selecting sites where ORV use would be permitted, the D.E.M. held five public hearings across the state on May 13, 1993.

It had been rumored by "knowledgeable" though unofficial sources that the Wendell State Forest had been selected as the site where ORV use would be permitted in D.E.M. Region 4. At least thirty Wendell citizens attended the hearing held in Amherst to object to such a policy. At the meeting Anne Zak read a letter from the Wendell Selectboard arguing that ORV use would cause serious trail erosion, damage fragile plant and animal life, conflict with the mixed-use recreation now enjoyed in the forest, and present safety and noise problems beyond the ability of our volunteer police force to control. Testimony from numerous Wendell citizens in defense of our forest land, its inhabitants, and its neighbors was powerful and eloquent. Members of organized ORV clubs from Connecticut--where ORV use has been prohibited on state lands, as it also has in Rhode Island--spoke in favor of opening our lands to their use.

The draft criteria presented by the D.E.M. for selecting sites for ORV use included consideration of staffing levels at State Parks, demographics, wetlands and other environmental issues. After the hearing, concerned citizens were asked to respond in writing to these criteria by May 19, 1993 (a comment period of only six days). Many Wendell citizens wrote letters in response to what they had heard at the meeting. In addition, a petition objecting to allowing ORVs on state lands was sent to Peter Webber, Commissioner of the Environment. Over 225 Wendell residents and neighbors signed the petition.

Andrea Lukens, Director of the Office of Natural Resources, reports that they have received "many, many" responses from individuals and groups in response to the hearings. We know they have received detailed comments from the Audubon Society, the Sierra Club, the Bear Mountain Preservation Club and presumably from members of the ORV clubs, their lawyers and their lobbyists. Andrea Lukens reports that some individuals have requested additional hearings, but she does not know if they will take place. *She also reports that at the other four hearings held on May 13, sentiment was strongly* ***in favor*** *of allowing ORVs on State lands.* Stay tuned.

MARGO CULLEY

BLOCK GRANT MONEY $$$ STILL AVAILABLE

Money is still available to Wendell residents in the current Community Development Block Grant. The grant provides ***interest free*** loans to homeowners and landlords who wish to bring their homes up to state code and/or to weatherize. Wendell was awarded money for rehabilitation of twenty single-family units @ up to $20,000 for each project, and ten single-family units @ up to $10,000 for each project. Loans fall due only when the house is sold, and then monies return to the Town of Wendell for the use of other residents. The program is designed to benefit moderate and low income people.

Projects may include construction that improves safety and sanitary conditions, including new septic systems. Majors systems repair to improve energy efficiency would also qualify--including new furnaces, burners, hot water systems, insulation, storm windows.

As an example of the income guidelines: a family of four may qualify if their income is at or below $31,450. Please call Regina Curtis at the Town Offices (544-3395) on Tuesdays or Thursdays or a member of the Selectboard for more information about this important opportunity.

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UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

GOOD NEIGHBORS GATHER TO ASK QUESTIONS.....

How can our community make sure that FOOD is available for all?

At a meeting on June 6 at the Meeting House a group of neighbors discussed this question and others. If there is an abundance of food why is it that it is not easily available to all? This meeting was called to throw these questions out to the wider community.

Rosalie and others who have worked on the GOOD NEIGHBOR'S FOOD PROJECT shared their experience of the past year and a half. The Senior Center has been used as a food distribution point each Saturday morning. One hundred and thirty five families have participated and one ton of food per month has been distributed. Now that the value of the program is recognized more resources are being made available from places such as Bread and Circus and the Amherst Food Kitchen.

Fund raisers such as bake sales, dances and flea markets have brought in some funds but too much responsibility for carrying out basic tasks is still falling on a few individuals. There is a need for volunteers to staff the center and help with a variety of tasks such as: food pick-up; kids corner; set-up; intake; newsletter; fundraising; bookkeeping; administration and clean-up.

At this meeting individuals were present from various community groups such as: the WRATS; the Selectboard; Meeting House activities; Wendell Community Works; Community Resource workshops and others. The new owners of the Wendell Country Store had much to offer the group from their rich store of experience with food distribution programs in another community.

The project has three main components: Government/USDA commodities; the Food Bank and donated foods. The first two require a certain amount of paperwork and bureaucratic organization.

Some questions were raised concerning the advisability of stocking Government food. Does involvement in any "system" tend to establish a hierarchy and thus distort community relationships?

The issue of quality of food was raised and the point made that people are free to choose from among the variety of foods available. We are all learning more about the importance of good nutrition through this project and as particular foods are requested such as organic produce they may be made available through existing channels.

None of the questions raised seemed to indicate a general sense of dissatisfaction or present overwhelming obstacles.

Suggestions were made as to sources of funding and kinds of assistance in grant-writing that might be available. The advantage of having some funds which might provide stipends for workers and allow for the purchase of food at 14 cents a pound seemed to outweigh the disadvantages of being related to some "system".

Most agreed that if we follow up on suggestions such as that or applying for specific grants: increase community participation by working in teams: get assistance from town officials; form a flexible organizational structure; arrange for regular meetings and continue to communicate with others in the community who are interested: the project can move ahead.

We have talked about Wendell's "vision" of the future and now hope to find ways to insure that a project which relates to a basic need in all of our lives can survive.

If you would like to help with this food project in any way please call Rosalie at 544-6650 or come to the Senior Center on Saturday morning between 10 and 12 o'clock.

All are welcome at the next meeting of the Good Neighbors on Sun. June 13 at 11 a.m. at the Meeting House. A potluck picnic will follow.

Joann Aalfs

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ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 1993

Abridged Report: Conservative, small and short.

Unabridged Report: May 18, 7:10pm, town meeting convened with 24 voters present. Nine articles were discussed and approved the first night, including two lengthy articles containing all expenses and salaries for town departments, such as the highway dept. and school budgets, and the related override amounts. Notably, it was the Swift River School Committee (Carolyn Manley and Jake Groton) who fielded the information session regarding our elementary school. Union #28 School Superintendent, Leonard Lubinsky, and S.R.School Principal, Len Strauss, stayed away to highlight that the school committee had taken on an enlarged role in representing local school interests. Although discussion on school issues was much shorter than usual, the S.R. School Committee was alert to scoop up $1,714 from an insurance savings under a later budget category to add to the school budget.

A separate article dealt with some override amounts, which totaled $35,243.00, and included requests from Swift River School, Mahar H.S., Wendell Highway Dept., and $500 for mediation services if needed for assisting in settling local disputes.

Other articles approved contingent upon an override (approval by ballot vote at the polls on June 28) include $20,000 for Capital Stabilization Fund, $10,000 to purchase a sander for the Highway Dept., $2,500 for a toilet at the Wendell Free Library, $1,000 to paint town buildings, $800 to install holding pens for rabid animals in compliance with humane standards at the Highway Garage. The Selectboard will set the date (JUNE 28) and the format for the override voting, but welcomed input regarding whether or not the figures should be voted as a whole or as individual line items.

Voters tended to be cautious, rejecting many articles, including money designated just for Jennison Road repairs (This was the 2nd meeting for this article with no advocates in attendance). Articles also rejected were monies for the Town Common Rebuilding Account, repair or demolition of a small shed by the Town Hall, and renovations to a Town Office bathroom.

Voters approved, all routine business articles and payments of notes on the Fire Station/Highway Garage, Swift River School Construction, and on the Fire cab and chassis, plus $14,000 to the Reserve Fund, $5,000 to the Capital Stabilization Fund, $2,400 to purchase a computer system for Town Finance Officers, $53,000 cab-chassis with dump body for Highway, transferal of $13,871.12 from Stabilization to Mahar for '92 Teacher Salary Deferral, and an amendment to the Agreement Establishing the Franklin County Technical School District pertaining to the formula schedule for determining population/payment to allow for greater accuracy in planning. The Town enacted laws against disposal of rubbish and other material in unlawful places.

Annual Town Meeting for FY '94 took only two nights. As its last item of business, the Selectboard, on behalf of the Town, honored departing Finance Committee Member, Elizabeth Crawford. Testament to her commitment to Wendell, she had delayed her move out of Town until after Town Meeting so that she could bring the budget through its process before the voters. She was presented with flowers and thanks, and a huge axe to represent her impact over the years on the Finance Committee.

by Kathy Becker, Moderator

ASST. MODERATOR APPOINTED

Jonathan von Ranson has accepted appointment as Assistant Town Moderator for a second year to assist the elected Moderator as needed. Jonathan is a member of the Massachusetts Moderators Association, which offers workshops and reference assistance to its members.

Jonathan will chair the June 29 Special Town Meeting, which has been scheduled to clean up all business prior to the beginning of Fiscal Year 1994. This June 29 meeting is the day after the vote on the Override. The override vote is scheduled for the previous day on June 28th (polls open 12-8pm). K.B.

MODERATOR'S NOTE:

WHERE WAS EVERYBODY?

It was odd that so few came to Annual Town Meeting. Attendance never reached thirty people at any one time, including reporters and guests for this most important Town Meeting of the year. The quorum is only 15, but the second night the meeting had difficulty in even achieving this. Sign boards were out around town, it was advertised in local papers, and of course the Warrant was posted in the official places as prescribed by law. Big crowds used to come with less publicity than what is currently provided. Constructive thoughts about this situation are welcome.

Kathy Becker

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The E 9 1 1 final plan is due by July 3, 1993. Ameeting is scheduled for May 20, 1993. Those expected to attend are: Ted Lewis, Ed Chase, Peter Rooney, and China The request by Franklin County CDC for a membership contribution was approved by Board members. A check for the amount of $25.00 will be sent.

A request by Mahar Reional High School for a representative of Wendell to attend their Memorial Day Celebrationon May 28th had to be denied since the Selectboard members each had a previous committment.

Board members discussed the need for volunteers both for painting the Town Hall and for the Street Numbering Committee.

A request for an inventory list from each town department will be sent again.

Cathy Becker attended the meeting to discuss with the Selectboard the need for better control of the new sound system at the Town Hall. It was decided the equipment is not available for public access other than the Full Moon Coffee House. It was decided that Ted Lewis and Cathy Becker will retain keys for the system's safekeeping. The Board will speak with John Koehler and Ed Boland regarding a user fee for other groups. The meeting recessed at8:23 p.m.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting May 25, 1993 - Minutes -
The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m./members present: Anne Zak, Marg Culley, Ted Lewis/also present Regina Curtis and Elizabeth Scully/minutes read and approved/correspondence reviewed.

Board members signed a petition and a letter to the Mass. Environmental Department protesting plans of that organization to sanction the use of off road vehicles in sections of the Wendell State Forest.

Franklin County Regional Housing Authority notified the Board that money is still available for Housing Rehab. in Wendell and other small towns. FCRHA also requested Town sanction to allow them to exceed program limitation for a single family deferred payment loan. The Selectboard o.k.'d the request.

A meeting of STAR (Small Towns Against Repression) is scheduled for Thursday, June 3, 1993 at Wendell Town Offices.

Regina Curtis sent Requests for Proposals to local newspapers urging competetive bids from insurance companies.

The Board received a Union 28 Superintendent Evaluation and an opportunity to comment upon it. The actual evaluation will be done by the School Committee.

A question and answer session with the Franklin County Dispatch, the State Police, and the Legislators is scheduled for Monday, June 7, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. at Greenfield Community College re: E-911.

An Amendement at the next Special Town Meeting will be required to accept the town of Conwy to the Franklin County Solid Waste District.

Deborah Wilder requested an application for a farm stand permit. She was issued a license for a store which will sell farm produce and groceries. It will be called Sundown's Farm.

Dale Kowacki, the Wendell Finance Committee and Janice

Barrett met with the Board to discuss the appointment of Mr. Kowacki as the Town Accountant. Mr. Kowacki will require a Balance Sheet and tax recap for FY'93 from Janice Barrett and certification of the Balance by the Town's auditors prior to his appointment which will take place on July 1, 1993.

The Finance Committee remained after Mr. Kowacki's departure to discuss the Override Ballot. All parties agreed the town people would prefer a menu type Ballot rather than grouping several items together.

The Override Election is scheduled for June 28, 1993.

A Special Town Meeting is scheduled for June 29, 1993.

Elizabeth Scully will notify Annie Hartgens, Town Clerk, to verify these dates and to inform her the voting poles will be open between 12 noon and 8:00 p.m. in order to accomadate all town citzens.

Anne Zak and Anne Diemand will run a tag sale to benifit the new Town Well on June 19th and 20th. It will be held on Route 2.

Present at the Dog Hearing scheduled for May 25th were Maggie Houghton, Wendell's Dog Warden, Nancy Riebschlager, the dog owner, Linda Burnett, Gail and Jay Krutka, the complainents. Ms Houghton said she had had several complaints about the Riebschlager's dogs including one by Phil Delorey whowas bitten by the dog as he rode past on his bicycle. The Board members informed
Ms. Riebschlager the dogs must be restrained and if they are loose and off the owners' property they will be removed from the town. Ms. Houghton was commissioned to notify Ed Chase, Police Chief, of this decision.
The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Wendell Selectboard Meeting June 1, 1993 - Minutes -
Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m./members present: Anne Zak, Margo Culley, Ted Lewis/also present Elizabeth Scully/minutes read and approved/warrants signed/correspondence reviewed.

Joshua Dostis attended the meeting to request permission to have the Town of Wendell act as Host to a day long meeting and workshop re: health issues related to low level radioactive waste. Mr. Dostis suggested a Town Meeting format. He would like to have cable television tape the program and eventually broadcast it. Ted Lewis asked who would be responsible for the agenda. Mr. Dostis said the Town of Palmer, which had a large turnout, had a conservation group and the town's governing body present. He suggested Wendell invite Ben Makalway, as a public relations coordinator. Mr. Makalway is the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Low Level Radioactive Program. And he thought Bob Hallisey, Head of Mass Dept. of Health, would be an interested party.

Mr. Dostis also requested permission to hold a Council of Friends and Neighbors to create a better sense of community in Wendell. Since his program would entail the use of a fire and drums, Anne Zak said she would like some time to think about such a project. Margo Culley and Ted Lewis agreed. Margo Culley suggested Mr. Dostis rethink his plans and create a program which would cross the boundaries of the different segments of Wendell's "Community". The Board members agreed that the spiritual aspect of fire and drums might not appeal to all the members of Wendell's community and therefore would defeat its original purpose.

Rosalie Rosser attended the meeting to invite Board members to an open meeting at the Meeting House in Wendell on June 6, 1993 at 11:00 a.m. Ms. Rosser is seeking feed-back on her program, The Good Neighbors. Margo Culley will represent the Selectboard at the meeting. Anne Zak will be out of town and Ted Lewis said although he is willing to help in any way he can he feels strongly that the program, which has been a community run project, should continue in that vein and not be politically sponsored. Ms. Rosser also mentioned the need for volunteers if her program is to continue. Mr. Lewis suggested she form a co-op, of sorts, whereby recipients of the program might volunteer some time to help.

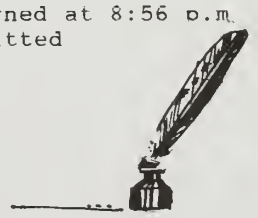
The Board will be soliciting volunteers for painting the Town Hall through The Wendell Post and will include a plea for Good Neighbors.

The Selectboard received a survey of Town needs from the Executive Office of Community Developement and Division of Community Services. Ms. Curtis sent forms to each Town Department with a request they be filled out and returned by June 14th. In keeping with this, the Board scheduled an All Board Meeting for June 22, 1993 at 7:30 p.m. to review the completed forms.

Board members discussed the Citizen of the Year nomination. Several worthy citizens are being considered for this honor.

The Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program Quarterly Meeting has been changed to June 17, 1993.

Ted Lewis signed the Green Thumb Host Agency Supervision Report.
The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.
Respectfully submitted
Elizabeth Scully
Selectboard Clerk



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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF '93!

FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL ~ GRADUATES ~

Ezra Bowers
James M. Facey
Joachim D.W. Graton
Christopher M. Grogan

wwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwwww

MAHAR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

The following Wendell Seniors received awards in recognition of their special talents. We congratulate them and their families on these honors.

Medal and Certificate for Outstanding Business Student: Kristina Hartjens

Medal and Certificate for Achievement in College Prep Math: Getchen Wetherby

Medal and Certificate and Gift for Peer Educator: Gretchen Wetherby (for 2 years) Aimee Mattson

New Salem Academy Scholarship: Joshua Scott

National Honor Society: and Mahar Teachers Association

Gretchen Wetherby

Award for Business:

Accounting---Shannon Murphy

Word Processing/Typing:

Heather Murphy

JUNIOR AWARDED HONORS

Thomas Soule of Bullard Pasture Road is the first student at Mahar to be awarded two very special awards. He won the Renssalaer Medal from the Renssalaer Polytechnical Institute presented to honor students for excellence in mathematics and science. This honor involves a $20,000 scholarship award. Additionally he has been notified that he is being awarded the Bausch and Lomb Medal and Certificate presented by the Bausch and Lomb Company to students outstanding in Science. This honor includes a $20,000 scholarship award to the University of Rochester.

At the recent Senior Awards ceremony, Thomas received the Harvard Alumnae Association Prize Book for excellence in scholarship, high character and achievement in other fields.

This young man has a sense of humor which will allows him to carry these honors with grace. Congratulations, Thomas.

"Wendell Post Staff"

PS Thomas also was recently elected PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL.

From:
Troop 344 New Salem/Wendell
Boy Scouts of America
P. O. Box 11
Wendell Depot, MA 01380

Scouting News

Cory R. DuCharme of 38 Blueberry Hill, New Salem, Massachusetts, has earned the highest advancement award the Boy Scouts of America offers to Scouts, the National Eagle Award. Cory was recently recognized in a National Eagle Court of Honor at St. Mary's Parish Hall in Orange.

DuCharme is the son of Raymond and Janet DuCharme. He is the grandson of Raymond and Jeannette DuCharme of Franklin, North Carolina and Clifford and Freda Rogers of Margate, Florida.

As a member of Scoutmaster Jay Blackbird's Troop 344 of Wendell/New Salem in the Great Trails Council, he is one of approximately 2 percent of all Boy Scouts who attain the Eagle Rank.

As an active member of Troop 344, he has earned 12 skill awards in addition to 24 merit badges. He completed a service project which consisted of erecting a large swing-set at the Swift River School in Wendell/New Salem. The metal structure was secured to the ground by anchoring the poles with cement. The ground was leveled, a form for cushioning materials was constructed and pea stone was spread beneath the play structure. Cory planned the project with school principal Leonard Strauss and supervised scouts and volunteers to carry out the project.

He has served in the leadership positions of Assistant Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Junior Assistant Scoutmaster, Instructor, Patrol Leader, Quartermaster, and Senior Patrol Leader. He currently serves as an Assistant Scoutmaster.

Cory is a senior at Ralph C. Mahar Regional High School. He is actively involved in the Key Club as a Point Secretary. As a member of the Fish N Game Club, he has taken the Rifle Safety Course and the Archery Safety Course. Cory has participated in the Varsity Soccer Team and recently received "The Most Valuable Player Award". Active on the Track and Field Team, he has received several awards for running and pole vaulting events. Cory is also certified as a Scuba Diver for both lake and ocean diving.

Cory is a member of St. Mary's Parish in Orange where he serves as an usher. He has been accepted at Springfield College and is enrolled in the Emergency Medical Services Management program beginning this fall.

Contact:
Ms. Florrie Blackbird
Committee Member
Home 1-508-544-2069
Office 1-413-545-6164

DR. PAUL A. KOWACKI
PRACTICE OF CHIROPRACTIC
NORTH QUABBIN CHIROPRACTIC CARE
26-28 NORTH MAIN STREET
P. O. BOX 118, ORANGE, MA 01364
(508) 544-7902

On Being a Man

It hasn't always come naturally to me to be human in this country during this time. And being a male human has held extra perils along with the advantages, including some that are pretty dubious, like being the assumed Boss.

I've felt whiplashed by mainstream forces and left unsatisfied by subcultural ones: I grew up in Eisenhower's supposedly mighty America, then was tantalized by the anarchistic Sixties then published a suburban weekly newspaper till I burned myself out, then detoxed in the pared-back lifestyle I chose to live in Wendell.

My preparation for intimate relationships was wanting, given the family-damaging effects of science and industry run amok, and absent fathers sacrificing themselves to the frenzy.

Being a man, though, has had special rewards too. One has been the experience of deepening my friendships and trust in five Wendell men in a group that's been meeting since mid-1990.

The relatively stable membership and the regular meetings have provided us a framework for a connection that helped me overcome a tendency to draw back from the scary riches of friendship. Like many, I had absorbed a whole society's worth of "shoulds." It has been good to participate in my group's ritual time for sharing the drama of our lives with each other--fears, hopes, dreams, problems. We talk plainly for the most part, yet this time seems to hold up an amazing mirror in which we gradually get to see ourselves as holy for who we are, instead of wholly for what we do. We aren't always serious by a long shot--some meetings revolve around basketball, or pizza.

If any men in Wendell are interested in the benefits of connection with other men through a group, talk to Jake Graton or me. We'll be glad to tell what we know about setting up a men's group, or simply give our impressions of male-to-male learning. There are excellent books if that's your thing, and a great video with Bill Moyers interviewing Robert Bly.

I believe each man in Wendell would be a valuable part of a men's group; for whose experience doesn't speak to an often shamed and silent part of the rest of us? Jake's phone is 544-6478, and mine is 544-3758.

Jonathan von Ranson

SUPPORT
WENDELL FIRE DEPARTMENT
T-SHIRTS - $10.00
• AVAILABLE AT WENDELL CENTER AND DEPOT STORES

With Kate Gilday and Don Babineau
at The Herb Field, Wendell.
For further information call
544-2121 evenings.

WILD FOODS FEASTING
(CREATING A MEAL FROM LOCAL PLANTS)

Over the past few years my good friend Paulette and I have been introducing other interested folks to the delicious bounty all around them in the wild green plants. We go out to field, riverbank, woods and garden to seek out the bounty of the day and return home to concoct delicious, creative meals with the baskets and buckets of wild produce! Tentative tastes, awkward hands and shyness with one and other soon give way to exclamations of delight and surprise at how delicious everything tastes and how familiar this all feels, how very familiar!

Here are the recipes for one of the meals we put together. I hope you enjoy the entire adventure---from finding and gathering the wild ingredients to preparing and savoring these delicious dishes. May the wild, wise one in each of you bloom and grow as you remember and give thanks!

CREAM OF GREENS SOUP -serves 4-

2 quarts wild greens: seasonally, nettles, chickweed, lamb's quarters, amaranth, violet, dandelion, comfrey, etc. Nettles are my favorite.
2 medium onions or 3/4 cup chopped wild leeks
2-4 cloves garlic
2 medium potatoes or 2 c. chopped ground-nut (Apios americana)
2 Tbsp. olive oil
4 cups boiling water
salt and pepper
1/2 c. cream or milk (optional)
miso and/or kelp to taste

Wash greens well. Fry chopped onion and garlic in oil in a soup pot. After a few minutes, add chopped potatoes and stir for 3-4 minutes. Add boiling water and the chopped greens. Simmer this for 15 mins. or until potatoes are cooked. Transfer soup (1-2 c. at a time) to a blender and puree. Return to pot to keep hot. Season as you like. Add milk for a creamier version. My kids always ask for seconds with this one!

MARINATED FIDDLEHEADS

Gather fiddleheads from the ostrich fern, often found on and just above stream and riverbanks. Harvest before they unfurl. Wash them well, removing the brown "fuzz" before cooking. Simmer 2 c. fiddleheads in small amount water til tender. Drain and cover with the marinade and let sit for a minimum of 6 hours.
Marinade - 1 c. olive oil, 1/3 c. vinegar, 3-4 cloves pressed garlic, fresh ground pepper to taste or a pinch of cayenne pepper. You can experiment with a sprig of rosemary or parsley, etc., for added taste. I can't get enough of these each spring!

"LADY-BUG EARTH DAY STAMP

designed by

Becky Wilder, age 8.

KNOTWEED CRUMBLE -serves 4-

I watch nearby patches of Japanese knotweed each spring for their fast and powerful push up out of the ground. They seem to grow inches in a day and need to be harvested by 8 inches for this superb dessert! This recipe was borrowed from the book Wild Food by Roger Phillips, one of my favorite cookbooks (the photographs are beautiful and all the recipes delicious.)

6 c. chopped knotweed shoots
6 T. honey or maple syrup
1/3 c. raisins
1 c. whole wheat pastry flour
1/2 stick butter

1/4 c. sugar or maple syrup
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg (optional)

Simmer first 3 ingredients until knotweed is soft (about 4 minutes.) Line a well greased pie dish with the fruit and top with the crumble. To prepare the crumble, cut the butter into pea sized pieces and work into the flour. Add the spices and sugar, continuing to work it in tot the flour until it resembles bread crumbs. Bake at 350 for 15 mins. or until lightly browned on top. Serve warm plain or with cream (or homemade vanilla ice cream! Yum!)

A pot of freshly brewed birch twig tea completes this simple yet delicious meal. Enjoy!

Kate Gilday

SATURDAY
JULY 10th!

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OFFICIAL OLYMPIC SPONSOR

Despite the most taxing weather in a century, Wendell's postal employees showed their mettle in making extraordinary efforts to deliver the mail. My personal thanks to you all.

While the weather has been testing our endurance, the Postal Service has been "Right-sizing". This restructuring has resulted in cost savings while placing high priority on maintaining service to our customers. Postmaster General, Marvin Runyon has said,"We are committed to operating like a business and keeping rates stable at least until 1995."

The "Greatest Stamp on Earth" was issued in April to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the Circus in America. Not to be outdone, the Wendell Post Office has on display priceless heirloom photograghs from the personal collection of Keith Blackwell, whose father worked for many years with the famous Sells-Floto Circus. The photos from 1928-1930 depict clowns, arialists, the big top, elephants, performers and musicians. Stop by the office and marvel at the display and enjoy the authentic circus music.

In 1993, Earth Day is 23 years old. The original idea for "Earth Day" was to shake the Establishment out of its lethargy and force the nation to focus attention on protecting the Environment from pollution and ecological disaster. Today, Earth Day is an international movement. It has become the catalyst for action-based projects throughout the world. The theme for 1993 is "Working with the Earth-Honoring Indigenous Peoples" The concept of working with the earth is aimed at identifying ways for all of us to work and live in cooperating with the earth, rather than users and abusers. Honoring Indigenous Peoples globally recognizes and honors those who first worked to live in harmony with the Earth and the environmental ethic that is part of their heritage.

Wendell Old Home Day

Wendell Old Home Day is happening on July 10, 1993! Even if it rains, we're still gonna shine!
The schedule for the day is as follows:

10 am	Children's Parade
10:30	Fun Run
10:35	10K Old Home Day Race
11	Children's Events
12	Music starts
5	Diemand's Famous Chicken B-B-Q

We have a great line up for music once again this year. Music continues untill early evening featuring THE OUTERSPACE BAND; BLUE STREAK; JOEL ZOSS and SPECIAL FORCES featuring JUDITH ANNE MARIE; two RUDE GIRLS - LYNN HARDY & DIANE SANABRIA, GANGLY HEARTS with COURT DORSEY, BOB ROSSER, ANNIE HASSETT, JONATHAN McCLELLAND & special guest SUZY POLUCCI; ELDORADO; LEAH and DOUG TANNER; JEFF MARTELL and many more local musical surprises!
The race is to benefit the Wendell Fire Association. If interested in running or helping with the race, please contact Beth Erviti at 544-3250.
We are also looking for folks to organize and run children's and adult events.
Look for a more detailed schedule of the day's events around town in posters and also the on the common for our big bullentin board on o.h.d. for any last minute additions!
Call Rosalie at 544-6850, Beth at 544-3250 or Annie at 544-6111.
Hope we see you all there to join in our celebration of Wendell.

GOLDEN AGERS
AT OLD HOME DAY

On Old Home Day in Wendell the Golden Agers will be at the Senior Center with remnants, arts and crafts for sale. Also tickets for a quilt and tickets for a food basket or afghan.
While you are visiting us at the center be sure to sign up for the door prize.
Several local nurses will be taking blood pressures at the center for anyone interested. No age limit.
It's sure to be a happening place so take a few moments to walk across the street to the Wendell Senior Center and share some of the day with us.

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. . . DANCE . . . .

BENEFIT DANCE FOR GOOD NEIGHBORS

* * * * * * * * * * *

SAT.. JUNE 19...WENDELL TOWN HALL
open mike 7:30 PM .....
followed by .....
DANCE!! DANCE!! DANCE!!

BAND *'EVE HAS RIGHT'* BAND

* * * * *
* * * *
*

CONCERT

FREE FAMILY CONCERT
NEW ENGLAND FOLK MUSIC
WENDELL TOWN COMMON

Saturday, July 31
6:30 - 8:30 PM

Known as YANKEE NOTIONS, Jim Douglas(vocals, guitar, and concertina) and Tim Van Egmond(vocals, hammered dulcimer, tin whistle, harmonica and "limberjack"), an accomplished acoustic duo, will sing songs, play tunes and tell stories of traditional New England folklore and merriment.

Bring the folks, or just yourself, and, if you like, a picnic supper, lawn chair or blanket(RAIN SITE - TOWN HALL).

This concert is supported in part by the Wendell Cultural Council, the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the National Endowment for The Arts.

POST OFFICE DISPLAYS CLAY ANIMAL POTS

Kerry Verney-Stone, a local ceramic artist, facilitated a project with five grades at Swift River School this month. The children saw photos of animal pots dating back 10,000 years from all around the world. After a demonstration of techniques, the children worked with caly to make their own animal pots. This project is supported in part by the Wendell Cultural Council, a local agency, the Mass. Cultural Council. a state agency and the NationalEndowment for the Arts.
They will be on display at the Wendell P.O., the Swift River School and the New Salem Library through June 20.

BOB ELLIS
Watercolors
P.O. Box 91
Wendell, MA 01379
413-659-3512

The Enchanted Forest Arts and Recreation Camp

We are very pleased to announce the third consecutive year of the Enchanted Forest Arts and Recreation Camp. This year we will be utilizing the Town Hall as well as the Meeting House. Our schedule is as follows:

The month of July only; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Drop off: Wendell Meeting House in Wendell Center.

Pick up: Ruggles Pond at the Wendell State Forest.

9 a.m. to noon will be arts and crafts. Noon to 3 p.m. will be swimming lessons and new games. Bring your own snacks and lunch.

Week 1: Exploring Colors! July 6, 7, & 8. Tie-dye; Batik; naturally dyeing wool; quilt design; feltmaking.

Week 2: Clay! Clay! Clay! July 13, 14, & 15. Featuring guest artist, Kerry Verney Stone with clays from the earth, Fimo polymer clay, and clays from the kitchen!

Week 3: What's Outside is Nature's Delight! July 20, 21, & 22. Featuring guest teacher, Kate Gilday, gathering wild things and plant identification, learning the healing powers of the earth, and making medicine shields.

Week 4: Puppets are People! Masks are Magic! A Story to Behold! July 27, 28, & 29. Making puppets and masks and creating a story to be performed for parents and friends.

The folks of the Enchanted Forest believe in the creative spirit in all Children, the importance of Community, and the Celebration of our Mother Earth.

There are still some spaces available. For registration forms please call Mez at 544-6252 or Gail at 544-6362.

EVENT CALENDAR

SAT. JUNE 19th 7:30pm	Town Hall Good NEIGHBORS DANCE
JUNE 26 8A - 4P	WENDELL FIRE DEPT. - Common ROAD BLOCK FUNDRAISER
JUNE 28	OVERRIDE BALLOT VOTE Polls open 12 - 8pm
JUNE 29	Special Town Meeting 7:00 pm
July 6	Enchanted Forest CAMP STARTS x3 wks Tues, Wed., Thurs. 9a - 3p
July 10	10A - 6 PM WENDELL OLD HOME DAY Apés OLD HOME DAY ACTIVITIES
July 31	6:30pm - 8:30pm NEW England FOLK MUSIC Concert on the Common